

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9-11 are amended. The substantive amendments to claim 1 introduce no new matter in that they are supported at least by the specification at page 7, lines 18-21 and Fig. 2, as originally filed. Claim 16 is canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in that claim. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art (Fig. 9) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,398,162 to Nagai. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Nagai teaches a ladder-type piezoelectric filter comprising a series-parallel combination of piezoelectric ceramic resonators and a plurality of connector elements each disposed on each side of each resonator, wherein an insulating elastic member is inserted between each resonator and each connector element (Abstract).

Independent claim 1 recites, an electric filter comprising a plurality of thin film bulk acoustic resonators (FBARs) each comprising a thin layer of piezoelectric material sandwiched between a top electrode and a bottom electrode, the plurality of FBARs being linked in a series/parallel connection arrangement for which the areas of the electrodes in contact with the piezoelectric layer to form the resonators are different between in series and in parallel FBARs, wherein: all the FBARs are disposed on one substrate; and the top electrode has a coplanar wave-guide structure.

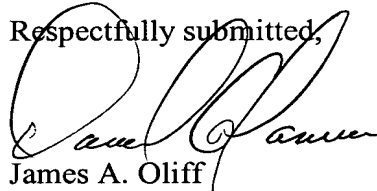
Applicants respectfully submit that the feature wherein the top electrode has a coplanar wave-guide structure is neither taught by, nor would it have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art given the teachings of, the combination of the applied references.

Applicants further respectfully submit that, while each of the dependent claims 2-11 and 13-15 recites separately patentable subject matter, these claims also include all of the features recited in independent claim 1 from which they depend. Because the combination of the applied references does not suggest all of the features recited in independent claim 1, neither can this combination of references suggest all of the features of dependent claims 2-11 and 13-15.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the applied references are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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Date: October 1, 2004

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